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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 541

By Jones U (Shel)

A RESOLUTION To honor Mr. Douglas M. Pearce for serving the  
State of Tennessee as a legislative intern for the  
House State and Local Government Committee.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those citizens who  
have contributed to their communities in generous and thoughtful ways; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Douglas M. Pearce is one such citizen, having served as a legislative  
intern for the House State and Local Government Committee during the 2001 Session of the  
102<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Affectionately referred to as "Ward Cleaver" by his co-workers for reasons  
unbeknownst to him, Douglas has distinguished himself as an exemplary intern for the  
committee staff and its officers, Chairman Ulysses Jones, Jr., Vice-Chairman Harry Tindell, and  
Secretary Edith Taylor Langster; his work has resulted in innumerable benefits for not only the  
legislators he served but also for the General Assembly as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Douglas M. Pearce was born in Brunswick, Maine in 1968; he was the  
seventh of eight children; his family moved to North Carolina when Douglas was three years old;  
and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pearce, at age sixteen, dropped out of high school and obtained his GED in order to work full-time to provide for his daughter, Ryann Lee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pearce, in 1985, at age seventeen, joined the United States Army; serving as an Air Traffic Systems Repairman and Counterintelligence Agent and receiving assignments in such diverse areas such as Korea, Arizona, and Kentucky; was honorably discharged in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pearce and his wife of fifteen years, Paula, are the proud parents of four children; Ryann, Brittany, Morgan, and Connor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pearce moved to Tennessee from North Carolina in 1998 with his family when his wife received a promotion with her company; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pearce, believing education to be one of the keys to happiness in life and stressing education to his children, decided, in 1999, to apply to Tennessee State University for admission as a freshman and was accepted; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pearce, the first person in his family to attend a university, is a Senior at Tennessee State University, majoring in Political Science and English; he maintains a 4.0 grade point average; he has been nationally recognized for academic achievement by the Golden Key International Honor Society and the Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, He intends to study law upon graduation from Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, He works at United Parcel Service as a Security Supervisor, helps to coach his son's youth soccer team, supports his children's academic and athletic pursuits; he finds time to volunteer on the streets of Nashville feeding the homeless and in the prisons helping the inmates and their families; and

WHEREAS, He currently spends his leisure time cheering on his children at the soccer and softball fields, riding his BMW motorcycle, and watching old movies; and

WHEREAS, Douglas M. Pearce is an inspiration to those who are fortunate enough to know him, and he seeks no fame or commendation for his acts of generosity and kindness, although he is most deserving of just such recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and commend Mr. Douglas M. Pearce for his dedication and commitment to education, his family, his community, and the great State of Tennessee, and we thank him for providing such a sterling example of what it is to be a remarkable Tennessean.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.